

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 310187
ORIGIN EA-12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 310187

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PPDC, TH, US

SUBJECT:LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRIME MINISTER

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DATED DECEMBER 27, 1977
FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRIME MINISTER KRIANGSAK CHAMANAN:

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR EXPRESSION OF GOOD WILL TOWARD THE
UNITED STATES. YOU MAY BE SURE THAT I INTEND TO MAINTAIN
THE FRIENDSHIP AND CLOSE COOPERATION WHICH HAVE SO LONG
EXISTED BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES.

WITH THE END OF THE INDOCHINESE WAR, SOUTHEAST ASIA ENTERED
AN ERA FULL OF PROMISE AND CHALLENGE. THE STEPS YOU HAVE
TAKEN TOWARD MORE NORMAL RELATIONS WITH THE STATES OF INDO-
CHINA WILL HELP THE REGION'S CHANCES FOR STABILITY AND
PEACE. THAILAND'S CONTINUED STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE ASSO-
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CIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS ALSO PROMISES TO SPUR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONAL PROGRESS.

OTHER DECISIONS TAKEN BY YOUR GOVERNMENT DURING ITS FIRST
WEEKS SHOW THAT THE UNITED STATES AND THAILAND SHARE MANY

IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES. I APPLAUD THE STEPS YOU ARE TAKING

TO PROVIDE GREATER PROTECTION FOR THE INDIVIDUAL, TO
ENHANCE POPULAR PARTICIPATION IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS,
AND TO BETTER THE LOT OF THE THAI PEOPLE -- ESPECIALLY THE
RURAL POOR. YOUR STATEMENT TO YOUR COUNTRY ON HUMAN RIGHTS
DAY SHOWS YOU SHARE MY CONVICTION THAT HUMAN RIGHTS MUST
BE A CENTRAL ELEMENT OF BOTH DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY.

THAILAND'S HUMANE TREATMENT OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES ALSO
ATTESTS TO YOUR COUNTRY'S MERCY AND COMPASSION. THE UNITED
STATES IS CONTINUING TO HELP MOVE REFUGEES FROM THAILAND
FOR RESETTLEMENT ABROAD, AND WE SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES OF
THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES -- BOTH
IN THAILAND AND ELSEWHERE. I KNOW THE REFUGEE PROBLEM IS
DIFFICULT FOR YOUR COUNTRY, BUT I HOPE YOU WILL CONTINUE
YOUR HUMANITARIAN APPROACH IN THIS DISTRESSING SITUATION.

I WELCOME YOUR EFFORTS TO WIPE OUT NARCOTICS PRODUCTION
AND TRAFFICKING, BY BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEANS.
WE SHARE A BELIEF IN THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS TASK.

I BELIEVE THE PERIODIC ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS MY COUNTRY
HAS RECENTLY BEGUN WITH THE ASEAN NATIONS WILL HELP US
WORK TOGETHER FOR REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH.

OUR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND IS PRESENTLY MODEST,
SINCE YOUR RELATIVELY HEALTHY ECONOMY MAKES MAJOR NEW
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UNITED STATES PROGRAMS SEEM TO BE UNNECESSARY. AS YOU
CONTINUE YOUR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF THOSE MOST
IN NEED, HOWEVER, THERE SHOULD BE MORE CHANCES FOR US-THAI
COOPERATION, BOTH IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND IN RURAL
DEVELOPMENT.

I HOPE MY COUNTRY WILL PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN WORKING FOR
PEACE AND PROGRESS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA -- AND THAT I WILL BE
ABLE TO CONSULT WITH YOU AND YOUR ASEAN COLLEAGUES AS
PROBLEMS ARISE.

MY BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR TO YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT
-- AND TO HIS MAJESTY, THE KING.

SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER

HIS EXCELLENCY, KRIANGSAK CHAMANAN, PRIME MINISTER OF THE
KINGDOM OF THAILAND, BANGKOK. END TEXT.

2. ORIGINAL LETTER BEING POUCHED TO EMBASSY FOR DELIVERY
TO THE PRIME MINISTER. HOWEVER, AMB WHITEHOUSE MAY WISH

PROVIDE PM WITH AN ADVANCE TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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